HALLELUJAH,

OR A

Thanksgiving-Sermon

Preached in

St. *Maries*, the Cathedral Church

OF

London-Derry,

On the Miraculous Deliverance,

AND

Timely Relieving that CITY,

BY

Major General KIRK,

To which is added,

A Letter to Count SCHOMBERG:

WITH

Speeches and Prayers, by that Eminent Protestant and Divine Champion, Col. *WALKER*.

Cor. 1. 10. *Who hath delivered us from so great a Death, and doth Deliver; in him we trust that he will yet Deliver.*

Licensed and Entred according to Order.

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A Thanks-giving Sermon,

PREACHED TO THE Proteſtants and Souldiers IN LONDON-DERRY.

Deut. 31. Verſe 6.

Be ſtrong, and of good Courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them, for the Lord thy God, He it is that doth go with thee, He will not fail thee, nor forſake thee.

SO Great has been the Care of the *Divine Providence* in all Ages of the World over his own peculiar Church and People, (which are all they that worſhip him in truth and ſincerity) that nothing hath appeared more Illuſtrious and Conſpicuous than the extraordinary Methods and Providences which it hath pleaſed the *Divine Wiſdom* to make uſe of. Of this we have ſo many Inſtances throughout the whole Book of God, that it would take up more time to

relate them, then I have allotted me for this Exercise: But however, to instance in some, and more particularly in one almost as early as Mankind; *viz.* In that woful Transgression of our first Parents, (wherein also the whole Church on Earth fell.) How early was God's Providence of delivery for ever at the Heels of *Adam*'s Sin, do we find Mercy following him; and both in the Third Chapter of *Genesis*, where at the sixth Verse, is his Trangression mentioned; At the Fourteen is the *Serpent* curst for his beguiling him; and at the Fifteenth is a *Redeemer* promised. O stupendious Love of God! That God should thus wait upon us to be gracious, and prepare our Medicines for us before our sickness! That before the Wound could be made, the Soveraign Balm should be ready to be apply'd! That God should be jealous of his Honour herein, and be so early with his Mercy, as even to supplant our very Wishes for it. But, in the Fourteenth Chapter of this Book of *Genesis*, we have so great an Instance, and a particular care, that when but one of God's Servants was seiz'd, and in danger of being carried away Captive, how easie, and yet methodically did God work his Deliverance. In the Ninth Verse we find four Kings engaged with five; At the Tenth, the five are vanquished, amongst which was *Lot*, (*Abraham*'s Brothers Son) carried away Captive; and no sooner was the News brought to good *Abraham*, but like a Captain full of Courage, he Arms the Men of his own Houshold, and with the *Militia* of one single Family, even *Abraham*'s Trained Servants, he pursues them, and, like an experienced General, divides his Forces in several parts, and falls upon them, and overcomes them: and as it is in the Sixteenth Verse, *He brought back all the Goods, and also brought again his Brother* Lot *and his Goods, and the Women also and the People.* Thus you see, what five Kings and the strength of their Cities and their Armies could not do, good *Abraham*, with no greater Host than his own Servants, who trusted in the God of Hosts, could effect: But that we may know that it is not our own Arm that saveth us: This Deliverance is not ascribed to *Abraham*'s Strength or Conduct;

duct, We find *Melchisedeck*, after he had brought forth Bread and Wine to refresh him and his wearied Souldiers, *He blessed him*, and said, *Blessed be Abraham of the most high God, Possessor of Heaven and Earth; and blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered their Enemies into their hands*; as it is in the Nineteenth Verse of the above-mentioned Chapter; God could have thrown down his Thunder-bolts, or have opened the Windows of Heaven, and shower'd down from those great Stores on the Heads of the Enemies of *Abraham*, (as elsewhere we find he did) and have destroyed them that way, but you see he did not; the Cause was good, the Heathens had taken Captive a Servant of the Lords, and as he had been taken in the Wars, God would have him delivered the same way too. I might also instance in the Conduct of *Moses*, he being the Instrument, as it were, in the hand of God for the delivery of the *Israelites* out of their *Egyptian* Bondage.

In *Joshua*, in *David*, and all other the Captains of the People of God; how certainly were they delivered, and as oft as they trusted in him, and leaned not to, nor worshipped the false Gods of the Nations, let their Numbers be what they would, and the Disadvantages they contended with never so great, they were certain to find Deliverance; as it is in the Seventeenth Chapter of the First of *Samuel*, when the *Israelites* were much over-powered with Numbers, in the Forty-seventh Verse, *And all this Assembly shall know, that the Lord saveth not with Sword and Spear, for the Battel is the Lord's.* Or as *Jonathan* said to his Armour-bearer, in a more desperate case than ours was; *Come and let us go over to the Garrison of these uncircumcised, it may be that the Lord will work for us, for there is no restraint to the Lord, to save by many or by few*, 1 Sam. 14. 6. Or as the words of my Text, *Be strong and of good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them, for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee, he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.*

Beloved, These Words I made choice of a Week ago, when we were under our hardest Circumstances; I chose them for the upholding and strengthning our Faith, and had designed to have spoke to these two things, (first) The Souldiers, only from those words, *Be strong and of good courage, fear not*, &c. And, secondly, To another no less necessary part of a Christian Souldier; namely, *To trust God for the Victory.* But since it hath pleased the all-powerful hand of God, to turn our *Scarceness* into *Plenty*, our *Tears* into *Joy*, our *Mourning* into *Laughter*; since he hath been pleased to work for us so miraculous a Deliverance; that from our being wearied out with our continual watch against our Enemies, He hath so altered our Circumstances, as to set a Watch about us to guard us from our Enemies, and those Trenches which were digged for our Destruction, are become now our Bulwarks and Fortresses: Since our Circumstances are so large, though I charge not my Subject, I thought to alter the way of treating out, and for encouraging your Faith, I will treat you with the Triumph of your Faith, there being Demonstration it self to support my Proposition; That *as sure as God hath delivered us now, he will not for the future fail to help us, or any of his Servants that trust in him.*

So great and many are the Happinesses and Advantages of being truly Religious, that it Entitles us to all the Blessings both of Heaven and Earth, it makes us the very Sons of God, and puts us under the Priviledges and Protection of his dear Children; it gives us a right to God's peculiar Care and Providence over us. So that we can say with *David, The Lord is my Shepherd, therefore I shall lack nothing; he maketh me to lie down in Green Pastures: Yea, though I walk through the valley of Death, I will fear no evil*, as it is in the 23d Psalm. Though it cannot be denied, but oftentimes Almighty God suffers his Servants to fall into many Calamities and Troubles, to be treated with Scorn and Reproach, and lie at the Mercies of Cruel and Wicked Men, (as at present many of our poor and dearly distressed Brethren in this Kingdom are,) yet let

the Enemies of God and Religion look to it, God has Power, and without their Repentance he will Punish; he will revenge the Quarrel of his Servants, and the Punishments they have contrived for others, shall fall upon their own Head: *For the Eyes of the Lord are upon the Righteous, and his Ears are open to their Cries.* Though he permits his Servants to bear the Rod of Affliction, we are to know, that Patience is God's School. He sometimes brings these Troubles and Trials upon us for the exercise of our Graces, that our Patience may be approved, and our Faith satisfied.

What great reason have we, and all other the *Protestants* of this Kingdom, to hold fast the profession of a sound Faith without wavering? And well we may, who have so truly beheld and felt to our Comfort, the Faithfulness of him who hath promised.

We, who with so much Joy, are at ease and liberty to Laud and Magnifie his glorious Name, for our Deliverance this Day; a Deliverance so great, that we could hardly believe our own Eyes, though they beheld the Ships that brought it. Like good *Jacob*, at the news of his *Joseph*, he Fainted, and believed it not. But now we have tasted of our Provision, and are fill'd again with the Pleasant and Delightful things of the Land. Now we have Corn and Oyl, and our Spirits are rejoyced, let us not cease to Sing forth the Praises due unto his Name. For if we consider that all our Righteousness is as filthy Rags, and that the very worst things we underwent, were far better than the best of us deserve: That the eating of Carrion, such as Horses, Cats, or Dogs Flesh, or any other Vermin, the eating of which we have been for so many Weeks reduced to, is a Condition much better than we deserve. And it is of God's Mercy alone that we are not already Consumed, that we are on this side the Grave, and in the Land of the Living. Let us therefore be sure never to turn God's Mercies into Forgetfulness, or ever venture on the wilful practice of any of those, since any of us, for which it hath pleased God thus to Afflict us, and our

Land

Land for us: Let us, I say, be very careful, that we render not Ingratitude for these Mercies. Ingratitude! which is a Crime so hainous, even amongst Men, that some Nations have punished it with Death. Let us remember (as I hope we all have) to put away every Accursed thing, to wrest out of your Bosoms your Darling Lust. God hath given every one of us fair Warning, and a great Opportunity to call and consider for which of our Sins is this Calamity come upon us; and as he hath Delivered us, so we trust he will Deliver us, if we with a true Faith and Confidence relie upon him. If we for the future Obey him, and Walk in all those Commandments he hath given us to Walk in, if we, as we ought, do love God, and conform our Wills to him, then shall he Bless us and our Posterity; our Seed shall take deep Root, and our Lord shall be blessed.

A PRAYER.

O Almighty God, Lord of Hosts, and God of Israel, *who art a great Security to all that trust in Thee: Thou a strong Tower, or a Fortress of Defence, since we may be Forced or Betrayed; but Thou art an Invincible Safeguard unto thy Servants who trust in Thee, from the Force and Fury of their Enemies, be they never so many or mighty. We thy Servants of this Place, having been so lately preserved by thy Mercy, do yield Thee most hearty Praise and Thanksgiving for our Deliverance from those great and apparent Dangers, wherewith we were Encompassed. We acknowledge, it was not our Policy or Power, our Innocency or Merit; but thy Goodness that Preserved us, that we were not according to our deservings, Delivered up as a Prey unto them. We beseech Thee, who hast hitherto Helped us, to continue such thy Mercies towards us; and that by Thy frequent Deliverance, all the World, as well as our Foes, may come to know that Thou, O Lord, wilt ever take our Part, because Thou art our Saviour, and mighty Deliverer. So, that they who Assault us, must Fight against Thee, so we shall be Quiet and at Peace to Glorifie thy Name, through Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord, the Purchaser of this, and all other Mercies,* Amen.

Gover-

Governour *Walker*'s Letter

TO HIS

Grace the D. of *Scomberg* in CHESTER;

On the Relieving of *LONDON-DERRY*.

May it please your Grace,

THE good Opinion (as I am inform'd) which I hold in your Graces Esteem, makes me bold to Impart our good Success upon the Arrival of Maj. General *Kirk*. You have made your self a voluntary Partner in our Sufferings, and ought consequently to be a Sharer in our Joys. The Maj. Gen. after so many hazardous Attempts, came and arrived in the *Key* before this Garrison, on *Friday* the 2*d*. of *July*, which *Memorable Day* ought to be Recorded to all Posterity. Many of the Town having died for Hunger, and our selves Reduc'd to the last Extremity, to eat Dogs and Cats; then, even then at this lucky Juncture, came this Messenger of Heaven to our timely Deliverance. Several Barrels of *Provision* as well as *Ammunition* were Landed, but no Forces which we could not admit, as well to prevent any Disorders and Mutinies in the Garrison, as for rendering them more Useful elsewhere. The M. Genral apprehending his Presence to be of greater Importance elsewhere, withdrew all his Forces to *Inch Island*, from whence joyning with the *Inneskillin*-Men, did that successful Execution upon our Enemies; of which you have Account from M. G. *Kirk*. We have had another effectual Engagement since, by which the Siege is effectually Rais'd, and our Army Encamped in the Enemies Trenches: We only want your Presence and Army to make a general Reduction of this Kingdom. But we are satisfied of your Zeal and Expedition: Nor would it be Manners in me to press your forwardness, whose greatest Honour must be to submit my self,

Your Graces most Humble Servant,

Walker.

A Letter from an Officer

IN

LONDON-DERRY,

Upon the Raising the Siege.

With Colonel *Walker's* SPEECH upon the same.

SInce the Relieving of this Garrison by M. G. *Kirk*, and the Raising of the Siege by the *Inch*, and *Inniskilling-Men*, in Conjunction with ours, under the Command of that truly *Christian Worthy*, Mr. *Walker* our Governour; I have little of present Moment more to send you, by reason that the Decampment of the *French* and *Irish* Forces from before the Walls, with the entire Ruining of their Works, and indeed utmost Blow (which God bepraised) we have given them; the that we are at present in great Quiet and Rest, our Army being Incamped in the Enemies Trenches: so that all our Busi-n·ss now, is only our Joyful Acclamations for the welcome Reception of M. G. *Kirk*, with his Gallant *English Succours*, and his timely Relieving of this Town at the last Extremity: His Appearance is here the subject of Universal Joy within our Walls of *London-Derry*, and it is of Terrour to our Enemies, who flye before us.

However, *Sir*, As the Glory of that Heroick Action, and indeed the whole Conduct, Courage, and Gallantry of this small, but Formidable Town, will remain a lasting and recorded Monument to the Fame of our Valiant Leader: So his Generous and Noble Speech to the Souldiers before the Raising of the Siege, that not a little contributed to our Conquest, by Animating that *Resolution* that gain'd it, will be no dis-acceptable *Present to you*, being as faithfully taken as the *Hurry at the delivery of it would permit.*

THE

Gentlemen, and Souldiers.

AS ſo extraordinary a Deliverance has at this time invited me to ſummon you together, I ſhall not conſult the ordinary Methods of Ancient or Modern Generals, ſo much to inſtruct you in all the Criticiſms of Marſhal Diſcipline; as to inflame your Hearts now you have Refreſh d your Bodies, to a chearful Reſolution, and to encouage Thankfulne s, Diligence, and Conſtancy in your Undertakings: And being by ſeveral like Proofs convinced of your ſteady Inclinations to live and dye for that Cauſe, which by God's Signal Providence, and your ſteady Inclinations to live and die for that Cauſe, which by God's Signal Providence and our Endeavours, we have with Advantage hitherto maintain'd. I thought it a double Duty incombent on me both as your Paſtor and Captain, to lay before you thoſe Motives that might at once enlighten your Underſtandings and excite your Perſeverance.

How far we are obliged by the Common Principles of Nature and Self-preſervation to defend our ſelves againſt all manifeſt and intended Injuries againſt our Perſons and juſt Intereſts; I need not here repeat. (The meaneſt Beaſt either by Flight or Reſiſtance demonſtrating their fixt Averſion to all manner of hurt and injurious dealing.) But when Perſons that are Circumſcrib'd and ought to be protected by the juſt Inſtitution of Laws, and the ſolemnity of Oaths, Promiſes, and Conditions are encroached upon, and marked out as Sacrifices to an Arbitrary and unlimited Power. Then, I ſay, the Laws of Nature and of God do warrant our Reſiſtance; and not only our Country, but our Conſcience exact our utmoſt Reſolution. What? are we *Chriſtians*, *Proteſtants*, and *Engliſh-men*, and ſhall we doubt to defend our *Religion*, our *Country*, our *Liberties*? See how our numerous Foes inſult, and laugh, and pleaſe themſelves with our Deſtruction. Hark! How they divide our Lands, and caſt Lots for our proper Habitations. Mark but their Faith to our diſtreſſed Country-men, and ſee what Uſage we are like to truſt to. *England* was ſcarce ſecure, tho ten to one againſt them. Can we then truſt their Power, being now not one to an hundred. They broke thr ugh all the Sacr d Tyes that could be made by Man unto them, and can we hope for Faith in their Perſormance? What has their new *French*

Piety

Piety mixt with their *Irish Popish Faith and Idolatry*; their frequent Messages to surrender upon Conditions, encouraged us to wear their well-known easie Yoke. Are we so destitute of honest Morals, as that we need to be Dragoon'd into Civility? No, *dear Country-men*, we know their ways, and are not now to be *Cajol'd* into *Destruction*. Scarce Forty years are yet exspir'd since we had pregnant Proofs of their *Humanity*. Some Mothers even in this Town are living yet, that how afresh lament the lost *Fathers, Husbands, Brothers, Children* not kill'd in *heat of Battel, or Assault*, but in *cold Blood*, and upon *Quarter given*, Possession of an *Horse, a Cow, a Cat, a piece of Money*, was *Crime* enough to exact, the *poor Offenders life*: Nay, when their *Avarice* could *ask no more, Tortures and Cruelties* have been apply'd for *Sports*, and *Infants* torn from their *lamenting Mothers Breasts* have been seen *dangling on their Cowards Swords*, to make the *Brutes diversion. Cowards, dear Country-men*, we well may *term them*, for yet never stood they an *equal Combat*; (*or what is now our great Encouragement*) maintain'd *a just and rightful Cause*. 'Tis true, *they boast their Numbers, and their Strength*, but we *have God and Justice on our sides*; *God, who with this small handfull of Men hath so often baffled their Councils and their Force.*

Let us therefore with Courage and Constancy, dear Brethren, go on, and make answerable Returns to that peculiar Providence, that hath so miraculously Reliev'd, and hitherto protected us. Let us now maintain the Glory of this little Town, and prove it the worthy Pupil of our great Patroness. England *hath not been unmindful of us*; *She hath sent us timely Relief and Succors*: *Let us express our Thankfulness in this great Action, and joyn unanimously with them who have brought us Relief, to drive the* Amalakites *and* Ammonites *from before our Walls*: *That God who so miraculously wrought our Deliverance, will Crown us with Conquest.*

His Prayer before the Relieving of the Town.

O God, who feedest the Ravens in the Desert, and by a Raven refreshed the Prophet in the Wilderness; Extend thy Providence towards us. Hear, Lord! O hear the Cries of the Hungry and Thirsty, that daily call upon thee within these Walls: And send us Relief, O Lord, and timely Redemption, in this our time of Trouble, that we may yet live to praise thy Holy Name, for all thy miraculous Deliverances to this City. This we beg for Jesus Christ his sake. Amen.

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